

## **REMARKS**

As a preliminary matter, an English language translation of the “Oracle” reference previously cited is enclosed with an Information Disclosure Statement reciting the reference. The required fee has been paid. Accordingly, consideration of this reference is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-18 stand rejected under § 102 on the basis of Prompt et al. 586. The claims have been amended to better define the present invention over the cited reference, and applicants traverse this rejection because Prompt does not disclose (or suggest) registration of personal tables in the manner of the present invention, with a data search from both the personal tables and the common tables, as in the amended independent claims.

A unique feature of the present invention is that users can add personal tables freely to a database including common tables accessible by all the users, and register information on either of or both management and analysis of the personal tables and the common tables as a personal dictionary to a dictionary. The dictionary includes a common dictionary storing information on either of or both management and analysis of the common tables. When a request for a data search is received from a user, the common table and the personal table are referenced, and the data is searched based on the information stored in the common table and the personal table.

Thus, it is possible to extend the database easily by adding the personal tables to the database, and to perform a data search efficiently from not only the common tables but

also the personal tables by newly generating the personal dictionary, including the information on either of or both management and analysis of the personal tables and the common tables, without modifying the common dictionary.

Prompt discloses a registration of a personal dictionary at page 16, paragraph [0172]. However, Prompt merely discloses a database management apparatus transforming relational data stored in a relational database into a hierarchical directory data, and registering information on the transformation as a personal dictionary. Prompt fails to teach or disclose the registration of the personal tables and the data search from both of the personal tables and the common tables by generating the personal dictionary. Prompt only performs a data search from the common table. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 13 stand rejected under § 103 on the basis of Prompt and Scanlon. Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons given with respect to independent claims 1 and 8. Withdrawal is requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 

Patrick G. Burns  
Registration No. 29,367

300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: 312.360.0080  
Facsimile: 312.360.9315

Customer No. 24978